

Message Text

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TAGS: UNIDO, OCON, EAID

SUBJECT: ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

AGENDA ITEM 7(E), THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNIDO

1. SUMMARY: THE SECRETARIAT NOTE FOR THE SUBJECT AGENDA ITEM (ID/B/178) SUBMITS VARIOUS PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY IDB-XI. IN ITS CAPACITY AS PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR UNIDO-III IN FOLLOWUP OF THE 31ST GA'S DECISION IN PRINCIPLE TO CONVENE THE CONFERENCE IN 1979. THESE PROPOSALS ARE ADDRESSED IN DETAIL BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. DATE AND DURATION OF UNIDO-III: THE SECRETARIAT SUGGESTS THAT UNIDO-III BE SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 3-31, 1979. WE ASSUME U.S. DEL CAN BE FLEXIBLE AS REGARDS CONFERENCE DATE TO BE RECOMMENDED BY IDB SO LONG AS SCHEDULING IS CORRELATED WITH ANTICIPATED TIMING OF UNCTAD-V AND THE UN CONFERENCE AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

THE SECRETARIAT PROPOSES FOUR WEEKS FOR UNIDO-III (TWICE AS LONG AS THE LIMA CONFERENCE). FOLLOWING LIMA, THERE WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WIDESPREAD FEELING AMONG PARTICIPANTS THAT THE TWO WEEK PERIODEF UNIDO-II PROVED IN RETROSPECT TO HAVE BEEN TOO SHORT A TIME IN WHICH POSSIBILITIES OF COMPROMISED TEXTS ON VARIOUS CONTENTIOUS ISSUES COULD BE FULLY EXPLORED. THIS CONSIDERATION HAS MOTIVATED THE SECRETARIAT TO SUGGEST THE MUCH LONGER PERIOD. WE WOULD HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HOLD THE CONFERENCE PERIOD TO MAXIMUM OF THREE WEEKS,

BUT SUGGEST THAT U.S. DEL BE AUTHORIZED TO GO ALONG WITH A FOUR WEEK MEETING IF THE G-77 INSISTS.

3. VENUE: WE ASSUME U.S. DEL CAN SUPPORT NEW DELHI IF INDIA MAINTAINS INVITATION EXTENDED AT LIMA CONFERENCE.

4. (A) DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA: PARA 4 OF ID/B/178 CONTAINS A DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE BOARD'S CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE GA. ITS SUBSTANTIVE PORTION CONSISTS OF THREE HEADINGS: (A) REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (ITEM 6); (B) STRATEGY FOR FURTHER INDUSTRIALIZATION (ITEM 7); AND (C) INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS (ITEM 8)M AS GENERAL TOPICS FOR CONFERENCE CONSIDERATION INTENDED TO PROVIDE FOR BOTH A BACKWARD AND FORWARD LOOK, ITEMS 6 AND 7 APPEAR APPROPRIATE. THIS SAME CONCEPTUAL APPROACH, ALTHOUGH UNDER A DIFFERENT CONTEXTUAL ARRANGEMENT, WAS INCORPORATED INTO THE AGENDA FOR UNIDO-II. AS MIGHT BE EXPTECTED, THE SECRETARIAT PROPOSES UNDER AGENDA ITEM 6 (A) THAT THE YARDSTICK AGAINST WHICH REVIEW AND APPRAISAL BE MADE BE THE LIMA DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION. THIS REPLACES THE GOALS OF THE SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE WHICH SERVED AS THE CONTEXT FOR REVIEW AND APPRAISAL IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIALIZATION AT UNIDO-II UNDER ITEM 6(A) OF ITS AGENDA. SUB-ITEM (B) OF ITEM 6 OF THE PROPOSED AGENDA BROADENS THE CONTEXT OF REVIEW AND APPRAISAL BY CALLING FOR A "REVIEW OF MAJOR PROBLEMS AND POLICY ISSUES AFFECTING THE WORLD INDUSTRIAL SITUATION AND THE STEPS BEING PROPOSED TO RESOLVE THEM." U.S. DEL MIGHT SUGGEST AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE LAST PHRASE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY HAVING IT REWORDED TO READ "AND THE STEOPS TAKEN OR PROPOSED TO REDUCE THEM".

(B) UNDER ITEM 7 CONCERNING STRATEGY FOR FURTHER INDUSTRIALIZATION, SUB-ITEM (A) CALLS FOR "EXAMINATION OF WAYS AND MEANS OF INCREASING THE SHARE OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN WORLD INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT". ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO HAVE THIS POINT REFER TO "ACCELERATING THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES", THE SECRETARIAT'S FORMULATION IS NOT SURPRISING GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED BY THE G-77 AND CONTINUOUS REFERENCE BY THE SECRETARIAT TO THE NEED TO ACHIEVE THE LIMA 25 PERCENT TARGET. IT IS ANALGOUS TO THE LANGUAGE OF AGENDA ITEM 6(D) OF THE LIMA CONFERENCE WHICH REFERRED TO "POLICIES AND ACTIONS REQUIRED TO PROMOTE AND ACCELERATE INDUSTRIALIZATION IN ORDER TO ATTAIN THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF THE (SECOND DEVELOPMENT) DECADE". WE ARE NOT CERTAIN WHETHER IT WOULD BE WORTH THE EFFORT TO REPLACE THE PHRASE "WAYS AND MEANS" BY THE WORDS "POLICIES AND ACTIONS REQUIRED", WHICH GROUP B SUCCEEDED IN WRITING INTO THE AGENDA FOR UNIDO-II

AT THIS POINT. SUB-ITEM 7(B) WOULD NOT APPEAR TO RAISE ANY PROBLEM, ALTHOUGH TO SOME EXTENT IT OVERLAPS THE SUBSTANTIVE AREA INTENDED TO BE COVERED BY SUB-ITEM 7(A).

(C) UNDER ITEM 8 "INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS" WHICH PARALLELS A SIMILAR AGENDA ITEM OF THE LIMA CONFERENCE, SUB-ITEM (B) CALLS FOR A REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF UNIDO'S INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. GIVEN THE PRESENT UNCERTAINTY CONCERNING THE OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS ON UNIDO'S NEW CONSTITUTION, IT IS DIFFICULT TO ENVISAGE AT THIS TIME WHAT MIGHT BE DISCUSSED UNDER THIS ITEM. SUB-ITEM (A) WHICH CONCERNS THE "EFFECTIVENESS OF COORDINATION AND FOLLOWUP OF POLICIES . . . BY ALL AGENCIES OF THE UN FAMILY" MIGHT BE FOCUSED PARTICULARLY ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE ARRANGEMENTS CALLED FOR IN PARA 75 OF THE LIMA DECLARATION HAVE PROVEN EFFECTIVE.

5. DOCUMENTATION: THE SECRETARIAT NOTE PROPOSES THAT A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT SURVEY BE PREPARED AS ONE OF THE BASIC DOCUMENTS FOR UNIDO-III. THE SPECIAL SURVEY PREPARED FOR THE LIMA CONFERENCE PROVED TO BE AN OUTSTANDING BACKGROUND STUDY AND THE SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSAL SHOULD BE SUPPORTED. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE SECRETARIAT ALSO HOPES THAT THE PROJECTED GLOBAL STUDY ON INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WILL BECOME ANOTHER MAJOR BACKGROUND DOCUMENT. THE SURVEY WOULD PRESUMABLY RELATE MAINLY TO PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM 6 AND THE GLOBAL STUDY TO AGENDA ITEM 7. THE QUESTION OF WHAT OTHER CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS MIGHT BE PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT MAY HAVE TO BE FURTHER CONSIDERED AFTER A PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT IDB-XI.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE: THE COSTS TO BE INCURRED FOR UNIDO-III DURING 1978-79 ARE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM BUDGET FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BECOME AVAILABLE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. AS REGARDS 1977, U.S. DEL. COULD BE AUTHORIZED TO AGREE WITH THE PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN PARA 13 OF ID/B/178 FOR PREPARATORY WORK BY THE SECRETARIAT. U.S. DEL. MIGHT HOWEVER, CALL FOR ABSORPTION OF THE ESTIMATED \$50,000 OF EXPENDITURES WITHIN THE BUDGETARY RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO UNIDO FOR THIS YEAR. STIBRAVY

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